



**Office of Economic Opportunity, CSS
Growing Opportunities Small Grants Program...**

offering grants up to \$3,000 to eligible organizations
in the counties of Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Swain and
on the Qualla Boundary.

Guidelines and Eligibility

Eligibility and Non-Eligibility Criteria:

Applicants may be any of the following type of organizations: Community group (non-governmental), 501c3 Non-profit organization, faith-based organizations. (Please note: grant funds are awarded without regard to religious affiliation).

The program or project for which funds are sought must be targeted to benefit the communities of Cherokee, Clay, Graham and Swain or the Qualla Boundary.

Priority will be given to community-based groups which 1) are open to and representative of a diverse population; 2) involve populations served in the planning of programs; and 3) provide a plan to sustain projects requesting funding beyond the funding period.

Applicant organizations and projects for which funding is sought must operate in accord with Catholic Social Teaching. Please see page two of this application for a summary of the basic principles of Catholic Social Teaching.

Applicants that have received funding from OEO in the past will receive a lower priority in the grant selection process. Such applicants might still receive funds, since final selection is, in part, based on the number of grant applications received and the total funds available for distribution.

Grants will be considered for start-up as well as on-going projects and programs, however grant funds may not be used to pay for “bricks and mortars” expenses.

Individuals, governmental entities and for-profit businesses are not eligible for grant funding.

2009 Grant Cycle with an Application Deadline and Award Date of:

Application Deadline: Postmarked by September 25th
Award Date: November (date TBA)

OEO’s Program Director and Grants Review Committee, representing all four counties served by OEO, will review applications for completeness and compatibility with program goals and eligibility criteria. Final grant approval is made by the OEO Advisory Board.

Office of Economic Opportunity, Catholic Social Services
27 Hatchett Street, Murphy, NC 28906
Phone: 828-835-3535
FAX: 828-835-9794

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING – 7 Themes

The Church's social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society. Modern Catholic social teaching has been articulated through a tradition of papal, conciliar, and episcopal documents. The depth and richness of this tradition can be understood best through a direct reading of these documents. In these brief reflections, we highlight seven of the key themes that are at the heart of our Catholic social tradition. [This summary should only be a starting point for those interested in Catholic social teaching].

LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and euthanasia. Human life is threatened by cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and the use of the death penalty. The intentional targeting of civilians in war or terrorist attacks is always wrong. Catholic teaching calls on us to work to avoid war. Nations must protect the right to life by finding effective ways to prevent conflicts and resolve them by peaceful means. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.

CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND PARTICIPATION

The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society—in economics and politics, in law and policy—directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities—to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.

OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt. 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.

THE DIGNITY OF WORK AND THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected—the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative.

SOLIDARITY

We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world. At the core of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Pope Paul VI taught that "if you want peace, work for justice."¹ The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.

CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION

We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

¹ Paul VI, *For the Celebration of the Day of Peace* (Rome: January 1, 1972).



Office of Economic Opportunity, CSS
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Application

27 Hatchett Street, Murphy, NC 28906 Ph: 828-835-3535

Organization Applying for Grant:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Contact Person for Project/Program for which Funding is Requested:

Name: _____ Title/Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Amount of Grant Requested: _____ **Total Project Budget:** _____

Name of Project to be funded: _____

Annual Organizational Budget: _____

Name and Signature of Authorized Representative (Advisory or Governing Board Chair):

Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please let us know how you heard about this grant:

Please return the completed grant application to Claudie Burchfield, OEO Program Director, 27 Hatchett Street, Murphy, NC 28906. Grants must be postmarked by September 25th.

Office of Economic Opportunity, CSS
Growing Opportunities Small Grants Program Application
Please provide the budget information requested below.

The budget information provided should clearly show how OEO grant funds will be used. Please call Claudie Burchfield if you have any questions regarding completion of this budget form or any other section of this application.

Current Fiscal
Year Budget
of Applicant
Organization

Budget of
Program/Project
seeking OEO
grant funding

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

1. Personnel Salaries (positions and amounts)

- a. Full-time Director
- b. Part-time Tutor
- c. Part-time Tutor

Total Salaries

Fringe Benefits

Total Personnel Costs

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

2. Expenses

- a. Office Overhead
- b. Travel Gas/Field trip(s)
- c. Programs/Operations
- d. Miscellaneous (Please specify)
 - (1) Office Supplies
 - (2) Misc. Supplies
 - (3) Snacks

Total Expenses

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

3. TOTAL BUDGET

List other resources for this project and/or any additional requests for funding (including in-kind contributions for personnel, overhead, supplies, etc.). Identify any Diocese of Charlotte funding sources to which you have applied or from which you have received funding for this project.

Source	Amount
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Reporting Requirements:

The Office of Economic Opportunity requires all grantees to complete an evaluation report, to be submitted within one year of receiving funds. Non-completion of this form will preclude the receipt of any future funding from OEO.

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Application**

5. Project/Activity Statement

On no more than two separate TYPED pages, please provide the information requested below. At the top of each page of your statement please place your organization name.

- a) describe the project/activity for which you seek funding and the project/activity rationale (i.e. need for project/activity). Include in your statement how many people will be served by your project/activity.
- b) describe measurable outcomes expected in increased economic opportunity.
- c) indicate who will conduct the activity and what experience your staff and/or your organization has with this kind of project.
- d) give a brief timeline for completion of the major phases of the project.
- e) describe how the project/activity will promote systemic change (see definition below).
- f) discuss how you envision sustaining the project in the future (see definition of sustainable development below).
- g) Additional community and outside support: Please describe how the community has been involved in the planning of this project/activity (e.g. planning meetings, fund-raisers) and please provide the names of community organizations that have partnered with your organization in this endeavor. *You are welcome to include up to three letters of support as separate attachments to your completed application.*

PLEASE READ....The goal of the OEO Growing Opportunities Small Grant Program is to support **sustainable economic development** in Cherokee, Clay, Graham and Swain Counties and on the Qualla Boundary. Priority is given to those projects/activities that promote **systemic change**. Past support has been given to: forming business cooperatives, increasing affordable housing opportunities, removing barriers to work, supporting family strength, increasing opportunities for small businesses.

The key is that the funded project/activity should be able to demonstrate a tangible increase in opportunity (i.e. job creation, increased commerce, improved housing, etc.). We want to know, for example, if the proposed project/activity will result in new jobs or will create training opportunities that were previously unavailable in the area.

Definition of Sustainable Development: Utilizing existing community resources to maximize the cultural and economic health of the region for current and future generations.

Definition of Systemic Change: Permanently altering those structures that perpetuate unjust economic conditions; removing the existing barriers to economic opportunity.